GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3540
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2015
Education for Underprivileged Children
Chudasama Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has maintained any data relating to number of slum children, street children and the children of migrant labourers who have no access to education and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken/being taken to integrate such children into the school education system;

(c) whether the Government has any schemes to support NGOs and voluntary organisations engaged ineducation of such underprivileged children; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): No data is maintained in the Ministry of Human Resource Development relating to number of slum children, street children and the children of migrant labourers.

However, as per an independent survey titled 'National Sample Survey of Estimation of Out of School Children in the Age 6-13 in India' commissioned by this Ministry in 2014 through an independent agency, 4.73 lakh children living in slum areas are estimated to be out of school. For the year 2015-16, the Ministry has approved Rs. 12704.231 lakh under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for the benefit of 227218 migrant children. State-wise details of out of school children in slum areas as per 2014 survey and provision made under SSA for migrant children for 2015-16 are at Annexure.

(b): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, which became operative with effect from 1st April, 2010, mandates that all children in the age group of 6-14 years shall be in schools for completing elementary education. Section 4 of the RTE Act provides for special training for age appropriate admission of out of school children. Those children who have missed out certain academic years either for being never enrolled to school or having dropped out of school, have a right to Special Training in residential and non residential mode, subsequently to be mainstreamed in formal schools in age appropriate class. These out of school children include those who are never enrolled, those who drop out, children of migrants, street and working children, children without adult protection etc. Strategies such as providing residential schools and hostels, transport and escort facility, seasonal hostels, special training centres at worksite, migration cards, back to school camps etc. are being implemented and have proved to be successful for the care of these children.

(c) & (d): Under Innovative & Experimental Education (I&E) component of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, financial assistance is provided to NGOs including those working for the benefit of slum and street children. The majority of schools are under the purview of State/UT governments. It is primarily their responsibility to make provision for schooling of slum children, street children and children of migrant labourers.

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